

Tuskegee Airmen return to war zone

By Tech. Sgt. **Pamela Anderson**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

The Tuskegee Airmen know about war. They battled the Nazis abroad and racism at home. Now they've made their way back to the front lines to show their support for Airmen fighting the war on terror.

Five members arrived here Tuesday to interact with military members, sharing their stories and offering words of encouragement.

"We're here to lend support to the troops," said retired Tuskegee pilot Lt. Col. Bob Ashby. "It's a rare opportunity for us to show them that their hometown, their home state supports them — and that their fellow Tuskegee Airmen wish them well."

Airman 1st Class Charles Hernandez said he's glad the famous Airmen made the visit. They've helped give him a better understanding of his mission.

"It gave me a new perspective on what we're doing here; not just at Balad, but as an Airman in today's Air Force," said

See Tuskegee, Page 6



Photo by Master Sgt. John E. Lasky

Capt. Mark Ferstl (left) explains an unmanned aerial vehicle's ground control station to Tuskegee Airmen retired Lt. Col. Lee Archer (sitting), retired Lt. Col. Robert Ashby (back center) and retired Col. Dick Toliver (leaning on the chair). The Tuskegee Airmen are here to meet deployed 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group Airmen and observe operations.

Sports Day



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Protecting Balad



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Support outside Balad



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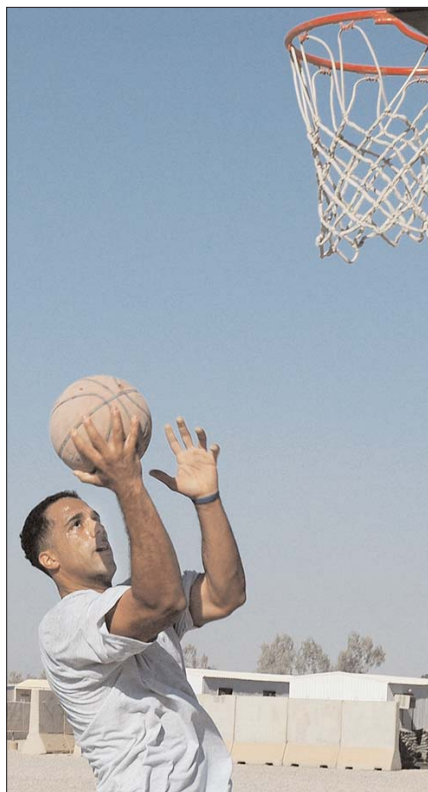


Photo by Senior Airman Bryan Franks

Accepting the challenge

(Above) Senior Airman Daniel Valencia, 1st Expeditionary RED HORSE Group, blows by Airman 1st Class Michael Young, 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron, in a losing effort against the 332nd ESVS team. (Left) Senior Airman Ryan Voisin, 332nd ESVS, attempts to make a basket.

COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

As a service for Balad Airmen, the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing operates the Commander's Action Line program. The line is a way for Balad Air Base members to get answers to questions or express concerns about life on the base. Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc, 332nd AEW commander, gives action line queries his personal attention. The *Red Tail Flyer* will publish those items that are judged to be of general interest to the Balad Air Base population.

In addition to using the commander's action line, Balad Airmen are asked to remember their chain of command when dealing with problems and concerns. The Commander's Action Line can be reached via e-mail at 332cc.actionline@blab.centaf.af.mil. Those using the action line should include name, unit and phone number in case additional information is needed and for a timely response.

Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc, 332nd AEW commander, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Layton Clark, 332nd AEW, visit with retired Lt. Col. Robert Ashby (center) and retiree Tech. Sgt. George Watson who are two of five Tuskegee Airman visiting here.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Chad Watkins

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing
Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc
 Wing Commander

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<http://www.afnews.af.mil/iraq/baladarchive/current.pdf>



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

Shopping without cash

Staff Sgt. Kimberly Farrell, 46th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron, browses through the Airman's Attic inventory. The Airman's Attics is open Monday and Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday from 8 to 10 p.m.

Air Force Climate Survey helps shape future force

Airmen will have the power to shape the Air Force of the future through the 2005 Air Force Climate Survey that began Oct. 1.

"This survey will help us ensure we are taking care of our most important asset -- our people," said Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. T. Michael Moseley. "We have used the most advanced information-masking reporting software available to ensure your identity will be protected. The questions in the survey itself are intentionally hard-hitting, and I fully expect your direct, honest and candid feedback."

The survey, themed "Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow," provides a unique total force perspective and includes active-duty, Reserve, Air National Guard and both appropriated and nonappropriated funded civilians. The identities of each participant are protected and every response is reviewed for consideration.

In past surveys, respondents have pro-

vided feedback on issues that affect their organization's ability to perform the mission, such as resources, training and development and unit flexibility. This year, respondents are being asked to provide feedback on their immediate supervisor's "enduring competencies."

The Air Force's enduring competencies are the personal, managerial and leadership qualities that should be common to all Air Force members. These results will provide senior leaders with a valuable baseline of the competencies used for force development.

"It's your chance to provide honest and straightforward answers to issues that directly affect you and your fellow Airmen," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray.

The survey is available and can be accessed, from work or at home computers, through Nov. 23 online at <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil>. (Courtesy of the Air Force Manpower Agency)

BALAD AIR BASE NEWS NOTES

Reserve Band visits Balad

The Reserve Generation Band will be performing at Balad Nov. 9 at 8 p.m. in at Eastside Rec Center and Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. in Town Hall.

Escorting in secured areas

Airmen are reminded that when escorting individuals into restricted areas certain precautions must be followed. Individuals must know the procedures for proper change-over between escorts and individual being escorted. Escorts are responsible for everyone in their group and must maintain an "eyes view" of those they are escorting. If someone wanders away from the group the escort may be charged with a violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Article 92. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Michael Miska at 443-8154.

Entry control point changes

Due to construction and base improvements, the following entry control point changes will occur:

◆ The H6 vehicle ECP will be closed from Wednesday to Nov. 16. A temporary vehicle ECP into H6 will be open behind Town Hall and DV vehicles will be able to enter H6 via the DV gate. All vehicles parked outside the H6 ECP should be moved by Wednesday. Vehicles will not be able to park outside of Town Hall until construction is complete.

◆ The Thunderdome vehicle ECP will close Wednesday. A new vehicle ECP for the Thunderdome will be opened on Washington St.

Mailing deadline

Individuals who are interested in mailing holiday greetings to their family and friends at home should spend their parcel post mail by Nov. 12, space available mail by Nov. 26, parcel mail by Dec. 3 and priority and first class letters and cards by Dec. 5.



Senior Airmen Remington Stover, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron, observes Third Country Nationals building a fence.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

Airman Eric Noblin (right) gives the time to Senior Airman Ely Wolfe, both from the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron Force Protection Flight, so he can log an escort detail Saturday.

332nd ECES Airmen protect base

By Staff Sgt. **Tammie Moore**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

Traveling to the North Gate to pick up Iraqis in the morning and ensuring they are accounted for 100 percent of the time is a full time job for more than 90 Airmen assigned to the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron Force Protection Flight.

Force protection escort Airmen deployed to Balad provide security force augmentation 24-hours a day, seven-days per week. They escort Third Country Nationals and Local Nationals working on Air Force construction projects across the base.

Forming the largest 332nd ECES flight, these escorts support more than 88 taskings per day watching more than 170 TCNs and LNs. Escort Airmen oversee TCNs and LNs who perform task such as black water removal and side walk construction.

"The TCNs and LNs are not part of Coalition Forces and need to be escorted to provide safety and security for all assets on Balad Air Base and LSA Anaconda," said Master Sgt. Robert Jingst, 332nd

ECES Force Protection Flight superintendent. "America's enemies will use any means to destroy us, including on-base workers. We have to be continuously vigilant in order to prevent these attacks."

The Force Protection Flight is aligned under 332nd ECES because a majority of the projects requiring escorts were awarded under civil engineering construction contracts.

"We provide the security to make these projects happen," Sergeant Jingst said.

The Airmen who provide this extra layer of protection come from an array of Air Force Specialty Codes.

"None of us have a security forces AFSC," said Senior Master Sgt. Donna Wootton, 332nd ECES escort flight chief. "We have Airmen from a variety of career fields ranging from chaplain's assistant to crew chiefs. Everyone brings something different to the table because they come from different AFSCs."

Sergeant Jingst said, "We are the only group over here working outside of our AFSC. These Airmen are getting a chance to learn and work with others outside of their career field."

Because Airmen assigned to the Force Protection Flight do not come with a security force background, they must be trained after they arrive at Balad. A bulk of the escort training is done by the person who is being replaced. In addition to turnover training, the 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Airmen have stepped in to offer their expertise.

"They provide us with technical guidance," Sergeant Wootton said. "They make sure we get the training and knowledge we need. They have been very patient and understanding."

Though the escorts may spend numerous hours a day standing in the hot sun, they realize what they do is important on many levels.

"By hiring Iraqis to work on our base, we making an impact in the local economy," said Senior Airman Jerrad Bell, 332nd ECES Force Protection Flight escort. "When the LNs come to base to work they are able to better support their families. In addition many of the LNs often express their support and appreciation for the Airmen and Soldiers serving here with us."

Supporting those outside Balad

By Staff Sgt. **Tammie Moore**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

The 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group Personnel Support for Contingency Operation team has a unique mission here — to account for Airmen who fill Army and Marine billets.

Although the majority of these In Lieu of Forces Airmen are geographically separated from Balad Air Base they must be in-processed, which is where this rare PERSCO team comes into the picture.

"We support 30 forward locations and more than 1,000 Airmen assigned to the wing who work outside of Balad Air Base," said Capt. Liza Theriault, 732nd EMSG PERSCO team chief. These Airmen are stationed across Iraq and Kuwait.

To support In Lieu of Forces, the PERSCO office is manned 18 hours a day and an Airmen is on standby 24-hours a day.

When the geographically separated Airmen arrive in the theater, the 732nd EMSG PERSCO team is responsible for ensuring they are in-processed and their personnel needs are met.

"We send someone from our base to forward deployed locations to in-process our people when they arrive," said Master Sgt. Monte Muxfeldt, 732nd EMSG PERSCO superintendent.

"We are the only Air Force PERSCO team authorized to go outside of the wire," Captain Theriault said.

Because of the unique mission requirements of this PERSCO office, the team members had to go through numerous training classes before deploying.

"We received convoy, Manpower and Personnel Base Level System and PERSCO training before coming here," Sergeant Muxfeldt said. The team members also deployed to Silver Flag at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, which provided the team bare



(Right to left) Master Sgt. Hayden Pickett, 732nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron first sergeant, reviews a personnel record with Staff Sgt. Jenna Marks and Master Sgt. Monte Muxfeldt, both from the 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group.

base operations training.

In addition to in-processing In Lieu of Forces, the team offers liaison work, data base support and emergency support assistance.

"In emergency situations we work with the Red Cross to get members home," Captain Theriault said. "Whenever we get a Red Cross notification, we work the emergency leave order. Anyone who is placed on emergency leave receives precedence to leave the area of responsibility. We can normally get individuals outside of Iraq in 12 hours depending on air flow."

Though working at the 732nd EMSG may be more demanding than working for other deployed PERSCO offices, members of the team would have it no other way.

"It means a lot to our team to be here supporting the Airmen filling In Lieu of Forces slots," Sergeant Muxfeldt said. "This is a very unique opportunity for us and we are glad to be here accomplishing this part of the mission."

Following simple precautions can prevent fires

By Staff Sgt. **Michael Degering**
332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron

When people get busy, safety seems to take a backseat and eventually someone gets hurt.

Performing simple, routine tasks can go a long way in keeping people safe and protecting against fires.

It is recommended to check smoke detector batteries once a month to make sure they are functioning properly. Smoke detectors should not be positioned directly above doorways or windows.

The unit should be mounted toward the middle of the ceiling or on the wall about two feet from the ceiling.

As an extra precaution, fire extinguishers should be located by building exits and throughout the building no more than 70 feet apart. Dorm and trailer rooms should also have fire extinguishers.

Individuals are responsible for maintaining fire extinguishers where they work and live. They should perform monthly equipment examinations by checking fire extinguisher nozzles for obstructions and

verifying the gauge needle points to the green area. This inspection should be documented on the tag.

If a room or office does not have a smoke detector or fire extinguisher contact the fire department at 443-6627.

An additional problem common in deployed operations is plugging extension cords into power strips. This can cause cords heat up and ignite a fire.

Ensuring fire prevention equipment is serviceable and taking preventative actions may save a life.



Photo by Master Sgt. John Lasky

Col. Gordon Jacobs (left) puts wing patches onto the uniform of retired Tuskegee Airman Lt. Col Robert Ashby. Colonel Ashby is one of five Tuskegee Airman visiting here. Colonel Jacobs is the 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group commander. The Tuskegee Airmen created the unit in 1941.

Tuskegee, from Page 1

Airman Hernandez an electrical power production troop with the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron.

"They fought a battle both overseas and one in the states because they were black," the Airman said. "Yet they did what they needed to do for the greatness of our country and our freedom."

Airman Hernandez said, "They reminded me that we're here for a good reason and there are people back home who believe in what we're doing — and believe in our cause. The Tuskegee Airmen are heroes and patriots and I was honored to sit and eat with them."

The Tuskegee Airmen formed in 1941 when the Army Air Force began a program to train black Americans as military pilots at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

"It was an experimental program and we were expected to fail. But our primary objective was to finish the program and

prove them wrong," said Colonel Ashby, an original Tuskegee Airman.

Lt. Col. Lee Archer, also an original Tuskegee Airman — and the only documented African-American ace — said the men wanted to do more than that.

"All we wanted was to fly for our service," he said. "We wanted to do it for our country."

Colonels Archer and Ashby and many others did just that, and so was born the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen. It continues to thrive at the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, home of the Tuskegee Airmen's alma mater, the 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group.

"The Tuskegee Airmen paved the way for future generations," said Col. Dick Toliver, a second generation Tuskegee Airman who joined the Air Force after the Korean War. "The legacy is right here, but it doesn't look like the original group. It's a collection of people of color and different nationalities. It's what it's always been, a reflection of America."

Just by being in the military, Airmen

are part of the legacy, he said. And they have a responsibility to live up to it.

"The challenge is to continue to improve because when you become complacent it opens the door to regress," Colonel Toliver said. "Don't assume racism is dead and the challenges are gone. Racism is about more than color so the challenge is to improve relations and build upon what's already been done."

During their Balad visit, the Tuskegee Airmen have seen today's Airmen are following in the footsteps that have been left for them, wing commander Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc said.

"(The Tuskegee Airmen's) work, their accomplishments, their collective experiences laid the very foundation of our wing," he said. "They should be proud of what they see because the Tuskegee Airmen of today are writing another chapter in the already distinguished history."

"For the Tuskegee Airmen," the general said, "the legacy continues in the air and on the ground."

Leadership

Using TQM leads to higher-level operations

By Lt. Col. **Brian Ouellette**

732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron commander

As the dust has settled, both proverbially and physically, from the recent air and space expeditionary force rotation, and new 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing leaders have assimilated to their respective missions and their people, the time is right to employ critical leadership components that will drive their section, element, flight or squadron to a higher-level of combat and mission support performance.

In the Air Force we have been taught, whether through mentoring, professional military education or plain old on-the-job-training, that engaged leadership with a positive attitude drives maximum unit performance. Engaged leadership is especially important in a combat environment.

In my opinion, the highest ranking elements among those critical components of engaged combat leadership are a clear understanding of the mission by all in the unit, a definitive vision of higher-level unit operations, a specific listing of goals and supporting objectives that will lead to

“ Our vision is clear — simply be the best “go to” engineering unit for the U.S. Army we can be. ”

- Lt. Col. Brian Ouellette
732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron commander

mission accomplishment and an affirmed set of unit core tenets that define higher-level individual and team performance.

Do the concepts of mission, vision, goals, objectives and tenets sound familiar? They should to those Tuskegee Airmen who've been around our Air Force awhile. It should cause a flashback to total quality management. However, setting all that past pain and frustration aside, there is undeniable value in applying this very same concept and, more importantly, these critical components of engaged leadership to your unit here. This is especially true at this point in the AEF rotation: the proverbial “honeymoon” is over

and it's time to lead your unit to “kick it up a notch.”

For the 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron, our mission is to provide critical engineering support for U.S. Army combat force sustainment and nation-building operations throughout Iraq. Our vision is clear — simply be the best “go to” engineering unit for the U.S. Army we can be.

Our stated goals are aligned to achieve our vision and execute our mission through seamless integration with our Army tactical control units, controlled operations tempo, innovative communications and unit accountability. All of that is done by keeping safety a foremost thought in our minds. Finally, our core tenets of discipline, engineering excellence, combat readiness, unity of effort and enlisted leadership set the basic framework for our day-to-day duty performance.

I encourage leaders at all levels within the Tuskegee Airmen wing to reflect on this perspective; to consider the potential impact that these critical leadership components can have for your unit. Does your have vision, goals, objectives and core tenets?

BALAD AIR BASE

UNIFORM TIPS

All personnel will wear reflective belts at night when wearing the DCU, flight suit, individual body armor, official Air Force physical training uniform, or conservative PT gear. The belt will be securely fastened around the waist, providing 360 degree coverage. Guidelines on reflective belt wear can be found in 332 AEW 36-2903 [Dress and Personal Appearance Standards], section four.

Balad AB Religious Schedule

Protestant - Traditional

Sundays
9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel, 10 a.m. Freedom Chapel, 5:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Protestant - Gospel

Sundays
11 a.m. - Sustainer Indoor Theater, 11:30 Freedom Chapel, 7 p.m. - Provider Chapel

Protestant- Praise and Worship

Sundays
9:30 a.m. Sustainer Indoor Theater, 6:30 p.m. Moral and Warfare Recreation Tent 29th SPT BN
Sundays and Wednesdays
7 p.m. Freedom Chapel

Protestant - Contemporary

Sundays
10 a.m. 299th FSB Tent Chapel, 11 a.m. Town Hall
Latter Day Saints

Sundays
1p.m. Provider Chapel, 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Liturgical- Protestant

Sundays

7:30 a.m. Hospital, 8 a.m. Provider Chapel
Samoan Congregational Service

Sundays

4 p.m. Provider Chapel

Roman Catholic Mass

Mondays through Fridays

7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Saturdays

5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (4:45 p.m. Reconciliation)

Sundays

8:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel, 9 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel, 11 a.m. Provider Chapel, 3:30 p.m. “626” Chapel (for Special Ops personnel only)

Church of Christ

Sunday

2 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Islamic Prayer

Fridays

1:30 p.m. Provider Chapel

Jewish Prayer

Fridays

6:30 p.m. Provider Chapel Annex

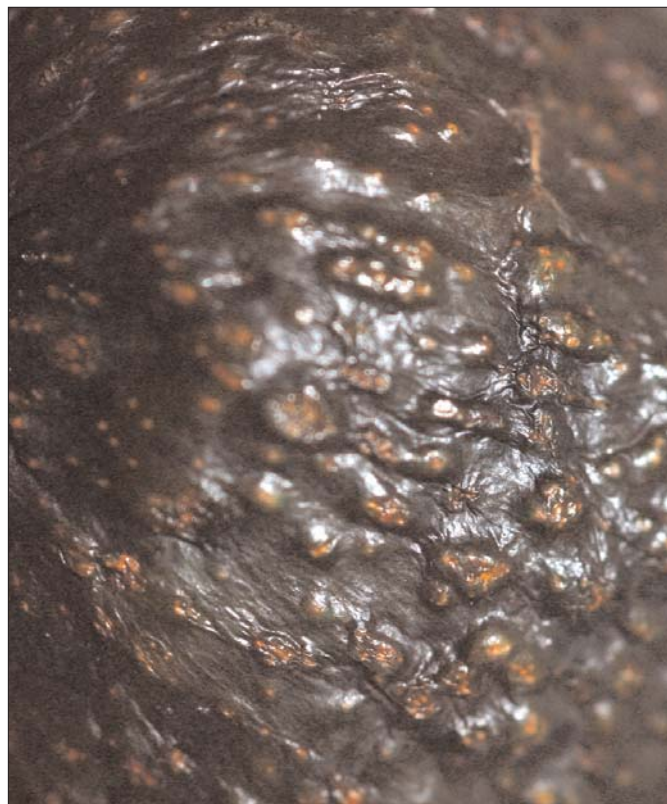


Courtesy photo

Silent Heroes

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Geren, 732nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, this week's "Silent Hero." Sergeant Geren was chosen because he is the sole Air Force explosive dog handler at Camp Courage, Mosul.

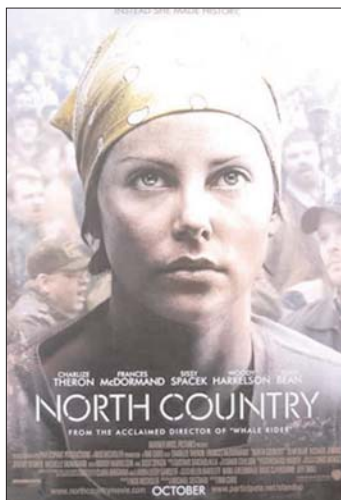
Know what this is?



If you can identify the object, send us an e-mail at redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil. Last week's photo of a folded reflective belt was first identified by Maj. Aaron Lade, 555th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron.

Sustainer movie schedule

Schedule is subject to change



Today

3 p.m. - Valiant
6 p.m. - North Country
9 p.m. - The Skeleton Key

Saturday, Oct. 29

3 p.m. - North Country
6 p.m. - The Skeleton Key
9 p.m. - Undiscovered

Sunday, Oct. 30

3 p.m. - Undiscovered
6 p.m. - Four Brothers
9 p.m. - The Skeleton Key

Monday, Oct. 31

Halloween back to back marathon
6 p.m. - Amityville Horror

Exorcist: The Beginning
Freddy vs. Jason
Seed of Chucky

Tuesday, Nov. 1

3 p.m. - Four Brothers
6 p.m. - Valiant
9 p.m. - North Country

Wednesday, Nov. 2

3 p.m. - The Skeleton Key
6 p.m. - North Country
9 p.m. - Four Brothers

Thursday, Nov. 3

3 p.m. - North Country
6 p.m. - Undiscovered
9 p.m. - Valiant

